

## Message Text

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FOL RPT USUN 0247 ACTION SECSTATE INFO GENEVA 26 JAN 78 QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USUN 0247

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, UNHRC, UG

SUBJECT: 34TH HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION MEETING: HUMAN RIGHTS  
IN UGANDA

1. AT A MEETING OF THE NY WEDS CONCERNED ABOUT THE UPCOMING  
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION (HRC) MEETING, SWEDEN (THE NORDIC REP  
ON THE HRC) WAS ASKED WHAT IT INTENDED TO DO TO FOLLOW THROUGH  
ON THE NORDIC RESOLUTION ON UGANDA AT THE GA. SWEDISH REP  
(NORDENFELT, BACK FROM SICK LEAVE, WHO WILL BE AT GENEVA) SAID  
THAT THEY WERE HOPING SOMEONE ELSE WOULD TAKE THE INITIATIVE,  
PREFEREABLY AN AFRICAN NATION. (THE DUTCH REP CHARACTERIZED  
THIS AS "UTOPIAN.") SWEDISH REP SAID THAT THEY WOULD DO SOMETHING  
IF NO ONE ELSE WAS GOING TO.

2. IT WAS ALSO ANNOUNCED AT THE MEETING THAT JUKKA WALTISAARI,  
(FINNISH REP WHO SHEPHERDED THE NORDIC RESOLUTION THROUGH THIRD  
COMMITTEE) WILL BE IN GENEVA, HOPEFULLY THE WEEK OF THE UGANDA  
DEBATE. THE SWEDE ANNOUNCED THAT "HE WILL BE THE SEDISH  
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DELEGATE THAT WEEK," WHICH MEANS THE SEDES WILL PROBABLY RELY  
SOMEWHAT ON FINNISH ADVICE IN DEALING WITH THIS MATTER.

3. THE UK ANNOUNCED THAT ON THE UGANDA MATTER IT WOULD  
NOT TAKE THE LEAD BUT WOULD SPEAK IN SUPPORT OF ANY  
REASONABLE ACTION. UK ALSO MENTIONED THAT CANADA HAD  
ALREADY DECIDED TO BE OUT FRONT ON THIS ISSUE.

4. THE FRG SUGGESTED THAT THE FORMER MINISTER OF JUSTICE OF UGANDA, WHO SPOKE DEFENDING HIS GOVERNMENT AT THE LAST HRC MEETING BUT IMMEDIATELY AFTERWARD DEFECTED AND IS NOW LIVING IN LONDON WRITING BOOKS DENOUNCING IDI AMIN, MIGHT BE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE HRC AND DENOUNCE HIS TESTIMONY OF LAST YEAR BEFORE THE SAME GROUP. THIS THREAT, HE SAID, COULD BE USED TO HELP PERSUADE THE UGANDANS TO ACCEPT A MILD RESOLUTION AND WORKING GROUP WITH INVESTIGATORY POWERS UNDER 1503 RATHER THAN RUN THE EMBARRASSMENT OF HAVING THE ISSUE BROUGHT UP SO DRAMATICALLY PUBLICLY.

5. THERE WAS SOME FEELING THAT PERHAPS THE UGANDANS COULD INDEED BE PERSUADED TO ACCEPT A MILD MEASURE UNDER 1603 RATHER THAN HAVE THE ISSUE GO COMPLETELY PUBLIC, BUT THAT ANY SUCH ARRANGEMENT WITH THEM WOULD HAVE TO BE THE RESULT OF CONSULTATIONS BEFOREHAND PERHAPS AT A HIGHER LEVEL THEN IN GENEVA.

6. COMMENT: A "CONTACT GROUP" COMPOSED OF CANADA, NIGERIA, AND SWEDEN-FINALND COULD BE INITIATED NOW IN NEW YORK, (ESPECIALLY WITH THE PRESENCE OF FOREIGN MINISTER GARBA OF NIGERIA HERE), AND COULD APPROACH THE UGNANDANS HERE OR IN KAMPALA AFTER THEY HAD AGREED UPON SUCH A MILD RESOLUTION. GARBA WILL BE IN NYC UNTIL APPROXIMATELY JANUARY 30.

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## Message Attributes

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